

65-735/a

Honorable Wayne N. Aspinall
Chairman, Committee on Interior
and Insular Affairs
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Aspinall:

This is in reply to your letter of 25 January 1963 requesting this Agency's views on H. R. 620, a bill to provide for continuity and support of study, research, and development of programs for peaceful uses in science, commerce, and other activities related to Antarctica.

As we have indicated in reports on similar bills introduced in previous Congresses, the polar regions are of great interest to the intelligence community and considerable attention has been given to the problem of how the United States Government should conduct its activities in these areas, particularly Antarctica. However, since these proposals involve issues which are not directly within the purview of this Agency, I feel that specific comment on them by this Agency would not be appropriate.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that it has no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

Distribution:
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✓ 1 - ER
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John A. McCone
Director

OGC/LC:JSW:mks (8 Feb 63)

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE)

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR

Attached is a suggested reply to a request from the Chairman of the House Interior Committee for this Agency's views on a bill to establish an Antarctica Commission. It conforms with our position on identical bills submitted in previous Congresses. We have consulted WH and ORR, who feel that our position should remain the same. DD/R had no comment. We have also cleared this response with the Bureau of the Budget. When you have signed, we will arrange for printing of multiple copies as requested in the Committee's letter.

JOHN S. WARNER
Legislative Counsel

8 February 1963
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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